THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ):

(a) Central Railway	36
Eastern Railway	33
Norther Railway	55
North Eastern Railway	19
Northeast Frountier Railway	13
Southern Railway	50
South Central Railway	43
South Eastern Railway	16
Western Railway	30

(b) and (c) Work is in progress at 67 locations approved in the Annual Plan for 1996-97 out of which 4 locations are in Uttar Pradesh viz. Lal Kuan, Varanasi City (Satellite), Lucknow City Station (Statellite) and Modinagar.

Carrying of loaded trucks on rail wagons

89. SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal/suggestion to carry the loaded trucks on rail wagons; and

(b) if so, the response of Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government have an open mind to explore feasibility of introducing this system.

Extension of Tirupathi Railway Station

90. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA:
DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to extend the length of the platform of the Tiruptathi Railway Station to accommodate more coaches;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) when will the project be taken up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Privatisation of Railway catering service

91. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE:
SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIAMANBHAI PATEL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to hand over the railway catering service to private sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether this facility is also likely to be extended for the trains running through Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (c) The present catering policy provides that new catering/vending services including those in Gujarat will be managed through licencees in the private sector.

Railway network between Renigunta and Gudur

92. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:
DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set-up railway network between Renigunta and Gudur;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) by when will the electrification work between Renigunta and Hospet be taken-up;

(d) the approximate expenditure on the project; and

(e) the target for the completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) Gudur and Renigunta stations are already connected by a broad gauge railway line and are on the national rail network.